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OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL



CHARLES A. GRADDICK

ATTORNEY GENERAL STATE OF ALABAMA

NCT 1 0 1984

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> > Mr. Brent Morrison City Clerk City of Piedmont P. O. Drawer 112 Piedmont, AL 36272

> > > Municipalities - Rescue Squads - Ambulances - Funds

City may provide consideration in the form of ambulance in contract with incorporated non-profit rescue squad, if city receives services of equal value from rescue squad.

Dear Mr. Morrison:

The opinion request of the City of Piedmont has been received in the Office of the Attorney General. Your question reads as follows:

"The City of Piedmont presently has a contract with the Piedmont Rescue Squad, Inc., a private non-profit organization, to provide ambulance service to the citizens of The organization has recently Piedmont. requested that the City of Piedmont purchase the organization a new ambulance with municipal funds in order to remain in compliance with state and federal regulations as to the age of the ambulances in service. Can the City of Piedmont legally purchase an ambulance with city funds for and in the name of the Piedmont Rescue Squad, Inc. to be owned and operated by that organization?"

Although the gift of an ambulance to the Rescue Squad would violate Constitution of Alabama 1901, Section 94, as amended, in an Opinion to Honorable John A. Gartman, Mayor of Mount Vernon under date of November 6, 1981, this office held that the city could provide gasoline, at cost, as consideration in a contract between a municipality and a non-profit rescue squad corporation. Likewise, an ambulance, rather than, or in addition to, municipal funds, could be furnished to an incorporated rescue squad by the city in order to meet its' obligation under the contract. However, in any contract of this nature the services provided by the rescue squad must be equal in value to the contributions made by the city. It is, therefore, the opinion of this Office that where the value of service to the municipality is of sufficient value, the municipality may provide consideration for a contract between the city and an incorporated non-profit rescue squad in the form of an ambulance in lieu of, or in addition to, monetary consideration.

I do hope that this response sufficiently answers your inquiry. If, however, we may be of further service, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

CHARLES A. GRADDICK Attorney General

By:

CAROL JEAN SMITH

Assistant Attorney General

CAG/CJS/pd